

SERMON: How to manage your money? /18.2. / Jarka Kořená

Today's topic is How to manage your money? (finances practically), so I tried a hocus pocus - combining what I know as a financial advisor with what I experience as a child of God.

Last time Jacob outlined the theological basis for money management:

1. Money is a spiritual matter
2. God is the owner, we are just stewards
3. Desires are not needs

As some of you know, but some of you may not, I am the child of two financial advisors and was a financial advisor myself for 5 years. My parents met in a university finance program, where they both studied personal finance and financial markets, and have been involved in these topics in various forms ever since.

After college, the opportunity arose to start a business in this field with my dad, so together we started a company called Financial Freedom, which my brother later joined. After about 5 years of valuable experience, my brother and I both decided to go our own separate ways, but personal finance as a topic will always stay with us.

Now you might be thinking "yeah that's how Jarka got her personal finances all in order", but it's not like that my friends. :-) Because often the roots of how we handle our finances are mental and even spiritual.

I've seen this as a financial advisor as well - that I only advise people "on the surface" and I can't really go deep because it's not part of my job. So what happens to me happens to a lot of other people - they know how it should be, but they don't do it that way.

Romans 7:15, 17, 18 "And I have no clear knowledge of what I am doing, for that which I have a mind to do, I do not, but what I have hate for, that I do"..... So it is no longer I who do it, but the sin living in me. For I am conscious that in me, that is, in my flesh, there is nothing good: I have the mind but not the power to do what is right. "

But we have hope! Not to let it get the better of us. We are called to it.

Romans 7:24,25 How unhappy am I! who will make me free from the body of this death? I give praise to God through Jesus Christ our Lord. So with my mind I am a servant to the law of God, but with my flesh to the law of sin.

John 6:29 „Jesus, answering, said to them, This is to do the work of God: to have faith in him whom God has sent.“

By believing that life and everything in it has been given to us by God, and by trusting Jesus as the one God sent into this world to save us from all evil, we have hope. I believe that through surrendering our lives into God's hands and believing in "the one he sent," God transforms us, and transforms us to the core. He transforms our beliefs, He transforms our habits, He transforms even what we cannot transform ourselves. And that includes our relationship with money.

Psalms 127:1 "If the Lord is not helping the builders, then the building of a house is to no purpose: if the Lord does not keep the town, the watchman keeps his watch for nothing."

Practical tips:

I am not what I own.

The world isn't exactly helping us take a "well, healthy" approach to finances. Money is being idolized. What we believe in instead of lord God is called an idol, and money is one of them.

„I am not what I own.“

„I am a beloved and accepted daughter of God, to whom the Father has given forgiveness and eternal life.“

Matthew 6:21: "For where your wealth is, there will your heart be.."

Specific tips:

- 1) affirmation (repetition of God's truth about me)
 - 2) reality check - can I imagine giving everything I have now?
 - 3) sorting things regularly: not choosing what to give away, but choosing what stays
 - 4) fasting
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Gratitude for all that I have

I don't believe God gives me enough and thus I try to indulge myself vs. seeing what God gives me, His care.

Matthew. 6:28 And why are you troubled about clothing? See the flowers of the field, how they come up; they do no work, they make no thread:

Specific tips:

- 1) examen
 - 2) flow sheet
 - 3) praise
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I know my desires and I work with them

The lily verse is all about needs, that we can be sure that our needs will be met. As Cuba mentioned in the last sermon, wants and needs are two different things. Every desire is intrinsically good; its unmanaged form is not.

Proverbs 21:5 The purposes of the man of industry have their outcome only in wealth; but one who is over-quick in acting will only come to be in need.

Specific tips:

- 1) Pray for transformation/guidance in my desires - where do desires lead?
 - 2) Shopping list
 - 3) Shopping waiting list ("wait a week")
 - 4) "Joy Fund"
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I have a budget and I'm planning.

Where I let the light in, it's not dark. You need to keep track of your finances, ideally not alone.

Specific tips:

- 1) Monthly budget
 - 2) Regular stopping over finances (reflection)
 - 3) Financial plan
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I follow the basic principles

"Is it good to invest? To take out a mortgage? Insurance?" The financial world is not black and white! You need to know the context of the person and their situation. But there are basic principles.

- 1) Reserve 3-6 times your monthly expenses
- 2) Insure the big stuff, not the little stuff; insurance is not meant to "pay for itself"
- 3) the investment triangle - a very profitable investment, immediately and without risk does not exist
- 4) no debt should lead us to negative cashflow (cashflow = monthly income minus expenses) and should be well considered